

Message Text

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 02415 050026Z

62

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

----- 020268

R 030439Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5053

S E C R E T TAIPEI 2415

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, TW, TH, RP, CH

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SHEN

REF: TAIPEI 2255

1. I CALLED ON FONMIN SHEN CHANG-HUAN AT HIS REQUEST, MAY 3. REFERRING TO MY RECENT CONVERSATION WITH PREMIER CHIANG AT TZU HU (REFTEL), SHEN SAID PREMIER HAD ASKED THAT ESSENCE OF VIEWS PREMIER HAD EXPRESSED ON THAT OCCASION AS WELL AS IN TALK WITH VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER ON APRIL 16, BE PRESENTED IN BRIEF PAPER AND REQUESTED THAT IT BE TRANSMITTED BY ME TO PRESIDENT FORD WHEN I RETURNED TO WASHINGTON FOR CONSULTATIONS.

2. PAPER WHICH SHEN READ AND HANDED ME COPY IS QUOTED BELOW: BEGIN QUOTE THE TRAUMATIC EVENTS THAT HAVE OCCURRED IN INDO-CHINA RECENTLY CANNOT BUT HAVE TREMENDOUS IMPACT ON VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD, PARTICULARLY IN THE ASIAN AND PACIFIC REGION. THE LEADERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA AGREE WITH PRESIDENT FORD THAT TO INDULGE IN RECRIMINATION AND IN APPORTIONING BLAMES IS NOT PRODUCTIVE. ON THE OTHER HAND, MANY LESSONS MUST BE DRAWN FROM THIS TRAGEDY TO PREVENT HISTORY FROM REPEATING ITSELF.

MILITARILY, THE INDO-CHINA CHAPTER MAY HAVE NOW COME TO A CLOSE. HOWEVER, A "NEW AGENDA" AS APTLY CALLED BY PRESIDENT FORD SHOULD BE METICULOUSLY DISCUSSED, PLANNED
SECRET

PAGE 02 TAIPEI 02415 050026Z

AND PREPARED TO DEAL WITH OTHER PROBABLE AND POSSIBLE INTERNATIONAL CRIES THAT ARE SURELY FORTHCOMING.

IT IS UNDERSTANDABLE THAT MANY COUNTRIES IN THIS

AREA, ESPECIALLY THAILAND AND THE PHILIPPINES, HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY NERVOUS, WHICH MIGHT EVEN LEAD TO PANIC. IN THE VIEW OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA, THAILAND AND THE PHILIPPINES SHOULD BE GIVEN TOP PRIORITY OF THE U.S. "NEW AGENDA".

WHILE ATTENDING TO SOUTHEAST ASIA, EQUAL IMPORTANCE OF NORTHEAST ASIA CANNOT BE GAINSAID. THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA IS COGNIZANT THAT THE U.S. ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO JAPAN FOR ITS INDUSTRIAL AND ECONOMIC PROWESS. BUT THE PROTECTION OF JAPAN HINGES ON THE SECURITY AND STABILITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA WHICH ARE VITAL AND INDISPENSABLE FLANKS TO JAPAN. SHOULD EITHER OF THE FLANKS FALL INTO THE HANDS OF AN ADVERSARY OF THE U.S., IT WOULD RENDER JAPAN MILITARILY VULNERABLE AND CREATE UNFATHOMABLE CONFUSION AND DIVISION IN ITS DOMESTIC POLITICS. JAPAN'S INDUSTRIAL CAPABILITY WOULD THEN BECOME ASSETS TO AMERICA'S ENEMIES. CONFIDENTIALLY, A NUMBER OF JAPAN'S LEADING ELDERLY STATESMEN HAVE EXPRESSED THE FEARS OF SUCH A NIGHTMARE.

IT IS BELIEVED THAT A STRONG CHAIN STRETCHING FROM INOREA, JAPAN, THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA, THE PHILIPPINES, INDONESIA DOWN TO AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND WOULD FORM A RELIABLE AND CREDIBLE FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE FOR THE U.S. DIPLOMATICALLY AND MILITARILY.

AS PREMIER CHIANG CHING-KUO TOLD ICE PRESIDENT NELSON ROCKEFELLER, THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA IS UNEQUIVOCALLY DEDICATED TO THE FOLLOWING POLICY DECISIONS:

1. UNRELENTING STRUGGLE AGAINST COMMUNISM AND COMMUNIST REGIMES NO MATTER WHERE THEY ARE AND DETERMINED TO DEFEND THE SECURITY OF TAIWAN, PESCADORES, QUEMOY AND MATSU;
2. FIRM ALIGNMENT WITH THE FREE WORLD, PARTICULARLY
SECRET

PAGE 03 TAIPEI 02415 050026Z

TO U.S.;

3. FURTHER PROMOTION OF INTERNAL POLITICAL SOLIDARITY;
AND

4. REDOUBLED EFFORTS FOR THE CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT OF THE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF THE PEOPLE.
BY SO DOING, THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA WILL BE ABLE TO PLAY A POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN THE NEW ERA.

IT IS THE FERVENT HOPE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA THAT PRESIDENT FORD WILL EXERCISE HIS FARSIGHTED AND STEADFAST STATESMANSHIP WHIC WILL HELP OVERCOME ANY

DIFFICULTIES IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA. IN THE LIGHT OF PREMIER CHIANG CHING-KUO'S BASIC POLICY DIRECTION, PRESIDENT FORD AND THE U.S. GOVERNMENT CAN ALWAYS COUNT UPON THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA AS A LOYAL ALLY AND PARTNER.

PRESIDENT FORD HAS REPEATEDLY OFFERED HIS ASSURANCES THAT WHAT TRANSPIRED IN INDO-CHINA SHOULD NOT IMPAIR THE CREDIBILITY OF THE U.S. IN ITS FULFILLMENT OF COMMITMENTS TO THE OTHER ALLIES AND FRIENDS IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC.

THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA IS GRATIFIED BY THE WARM SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED BY PRESIDENT FORD TOWARDS THIS COUNTRY IN HIS RECENT APPEARANCE AT THE AMERICAN NEWSPAPER EDITORS' ASSOCIATION IN NEW YORK. THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WOULD REPEAT SUCH REASSURANCES WHENEVER THE SAME ARE PUBLICLY GIVEN TO OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE REGION.

FREQUENT AND FRANK CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WOULD BE MOST BENEFICIAL FOR BOTH COUNTRIES.

FOR THE TASK OF STABILIZING THAILAND, THE PHILIPPINES AND OTHER SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES THE STRENGTHENING OF

THE TIES BETWEEN THE U.S. AND NATIONS IN NORTHEAST ASIA IN GENERAL AND THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN PARTICULAR
SECRET

PAGE 04 TAIPEI 02415 050026Z

COULD ALSO SERVE AS A CREDIBLE TOKEN OF THE U.S. INTENTION AND DETERMINATION, SO THAT THE WAVERING AND NERVOUS COUNTRIES IN THIS AREA WOULD NOT BE DRAWN INTO THE ORBIT OF THE CHINESE COMMUNISTS. END QUOTE

3. I TOLD SHEN THAT EXPRESSION OF ROC VIEWS AS PRESENTED IN PAPER WOULD BE HELPFUL IN CURRENT WASHINGTON REASSESSMENT OF OUR POLICIES AND THAT I WOULD MAKE A PARTICULAR POINT OF BRINGING TO ATTENTION OF OUR POLICY MAKERS. I EXPECTED THIS REASSESSMENT WOULD RESULT IN POLICY FOUNDED ON BASIC, LONG-TERM INTERESTS, AND THAT, IN THIS CONNECTION, I FELT SURE THAT OUR PEOPLE WOULD CONTINUE TO HAVE VERY MUCH IN MIND THE MEANS OF WHICH A MODUS VIVENDI COULD BE WORKED OUT WITH MAINLAND CHINA IN ORDER TO BETTER ASSURE PEACE AND STABILITY IN EAST ASIA AND ALSO TO SEEK SOLUTIONS TO SOME WORLD PROBLEMS IN WHICH MAINLAND CHINA MUST PLAY A ROLE. I TOLD SHEN THAT WE WERE VERY WELL AWARE OF ROC VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT AND ITS ESSENTIAL INTEREST IN OUR DEVELOPING RELATIONS WITH THE PRC. SHEN INDICATED HIS UNDERSTANDING, BUT WONDERED IF THE HIGH PRICE WE WOULD HAVE TO PAY FOR FURTHERING DETENTE WITH THE COMMUNISTS WOULD BE WORTH THE CLEAR DISADVANTAGES. HE POINTED UP THE "NONTRUSTWORTHINESS" OF THE CHINESE COMMUNISTS, E.G., INDOCHINA, CONTINUING SUPPORT FOR INSURGENCIES, ETC., AS CONTRASTED WITH THE CLEAR, UNAMBIGUOUS

POLICIES OF THE ROC WHICH WERE STRONGLY SUPPORTIVE OF THE U.S.

4. OUR CONVERSATION CONTINUED OVER A RATHER BROAD
RANGE OF SUBJECTS WHICH WILL BE REPORTED SEPTELS.

5. REGARDING PREMIER'S REQUEST THAT PAPER QUOTED
PARA 2, ABOVE BE TRANSMITTED TO PRESIDENT FORD, I
WILL WISH TO DISCUSS THIS DURING MY CONSULTATION
WASHINGTON.
UNGER

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PAPERS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: woolflhd
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TAIPEI02415
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 XGDS-1
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750156-0521
From: TAIPEI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197505100/baaaadra.tel
Line Count: 175
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: woolflhd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 JUL 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <23 DEC 2003 by woolflhd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PFOR, TW, TH, RP, CH, US, XC, (UNGER, LEONARD), (SHEN CHANG-HUAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006